



Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor

John Corra, Director

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

(ARRA)

Program: Abandoned Mine Lands

Total ARRA Dollars: \$1,220,460

Wyoming State Grant Share: \$1,220,460

State Contact: Bill Locke, AML Project Manager, Lander Field Office

The Department of Environmental Quality, Abandoned Mine Lands Division (AML) entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office (BLM) to allow the BLM to reimburse AML for reclamation of selected abandoned mine sites at the request of BLM. AML has the authority to reclaim and restore land and water resources on mined lands or lands affected by mining and left in an unreclaimed or inadequately reclaimed condition for which there is no continuing reclamation responsibility. The BLM is responsible for managing the use of federal public lands, ensuring the health and safety of the Public on public federal lands, and further, has an interest in the health and reclamation of the public federal lands.

The Cooperative Agreement allows for the reclamation of abandoned mine land under the provisions of Title IV, Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (P.L. 95087) through joint planning and cost sharing arrangements involving property, labor and funds. The projects are located in Fremont and Carbon counties.

The projects will involve barricading, backfilling, or sealing thirty-five (35) abandoned mine openings (vertical openings and portals), five (5) subsidence features, and seven (7) highwalls at nineteen (19) sites throughout the State. The project will protect the public from serious injury due to falls or entrapment in hazardous mine openings. There may be some environmental hazards reclaimed as a result of mitigating the physical hazards at these sites, but the primary goal of this reclamation is to protect the public from physical hazards. The environmental hazard reclamation would be in the form of minimizing erosion associated with spoil piles used to fill vertical opening and reduction of erosion due to highwall mitigation. Additionally there will be some coal slack removed from ephemeral streams as it is used to fill vertical openings.

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ADMIN/OUTREACH	ABANDONED MINES	AIR QUALITY	INDUSTRIAL SITING	LAND QUALITY	SOLID & HAZ. WASTE	WATER QUALITY
(307) 777-7937	(307) 777-6145	(307) 777-7391	(307) 777-7369	(307) 777-7756	(307) 777-7752	(307) 777-7781
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